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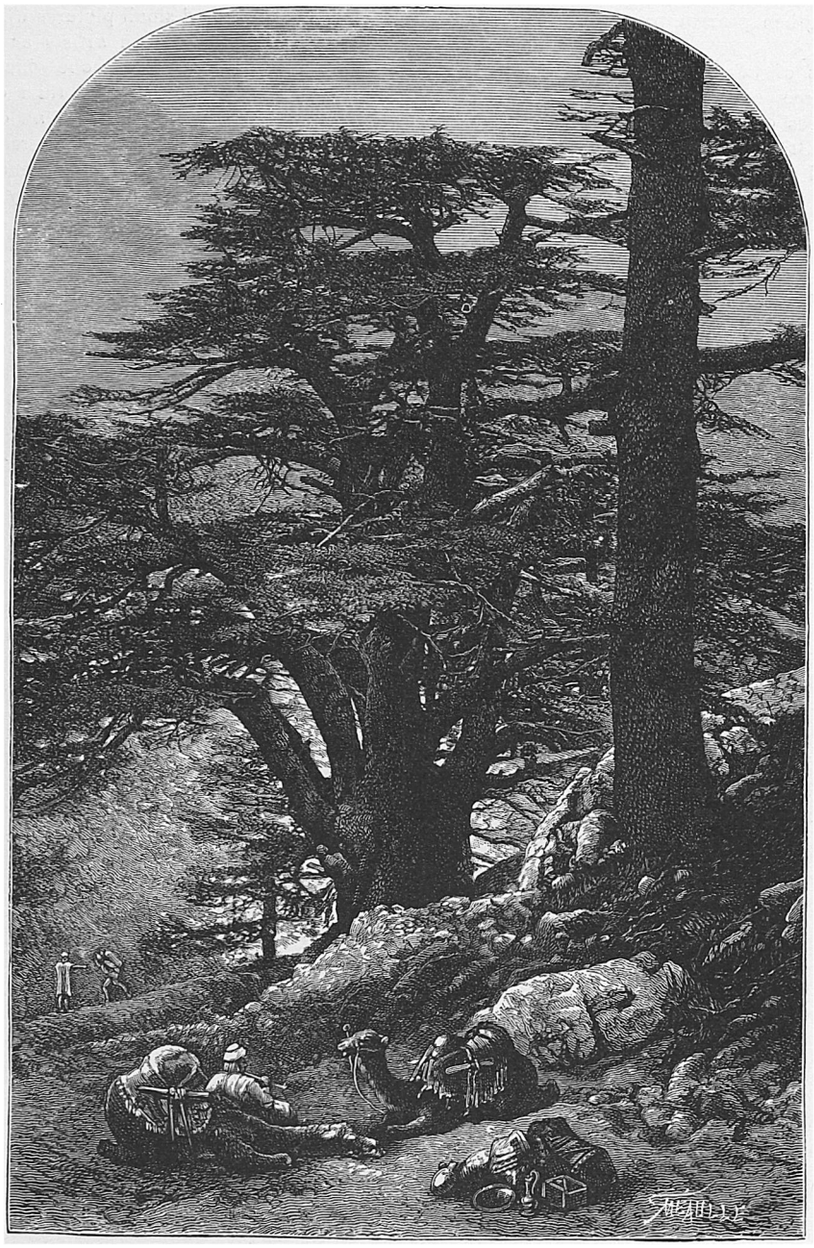
ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.—PICTURES FROM BIBLE LANDS.*

IT is from the *Book of books* that we take our first impressions of the lands of the Assyrian and Egyptian. They are always lands apart from other lands—sacred from association and early teachings at our mother's knee. They are indeed holy in our eyes, and the longing of many a devout heart is for once to behold them, even as the soul yearns wistfully over that which has been touched by, or associated with, the loved and the departed. The soul yearns after what in the body we may not behold; and for those (they are very many) who are ever drawn by some irresistible sympathy towards the scenes of ancient story, the publishers of the Religious Tract Society have given a substitute for personal toil and travel that will delight and instruct them. The letterpress and illustrations begin with Damascus, "the oldest city in the world." A third division of the work contains sketches from Northern Syria and Asia Minor, as connected specially with New Testament history,



Cedars of Mount Lebanon.

beginning with Antioch, where "the disciples were first called Christians," and passing on to various scenes of apostolic labour, including the spot of newly revived interest, the island of Cyprus. Nineveh and Babylon, and their mighty rivers, have a section to themselves. The illustrations, being in a great measure from photographs, have a reality about them that is truly fascinating; and the sketches of native costume, the scenery, the old relics, the fac-similes of ancient inscriptions, including the famous Moabite stone, are invaluable to the artist and the archæologist. They are well, some admirably, engraved. The thanks of all readers will be heartily given to the editor, Dr. Samuel G. Green.

* "Pictures from Bible Lands." Drawn with Pen and Pencil. Edited by Samuel G. Green, D.D. The Illustrations by Edward Whymper and other eminent Artists. Published by the Religious Tract Society.